

Supplemental

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/824,746

Examiner

Kambiz Zand

Applicant(s)

MURAKAMI ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to interview conducted on 09/06/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date enclosed.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


Zand

DETAILED ACTION
EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Gary M. Jacobs on 09/06/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 12 (Currently amended) A computer program product embodying a program stored in a computer readable medium comprising:

program codes for implementing an image processing method of embedding in image data, digital watermark information comprising an irrotationally symmetric pattern arrangement and position and rotation information;

program codes for a rotation information searching step for performing processing for extracting the rotation information from the image data with the digital watermark information embedded therein, for a plurality of rotation angles different from one another;

program codes for a position information searching step for performing processing for extracting the position information from the image data, for a plurality of start-of-extraction position different from one another;

program codes for a calculating step for calculating confidence coefficients indicating the accuracy with which the position and rotation information is extracted, for each information searched by the rotation information searching step and position information searching step and extracted as position and rotation information; and

program codes for determining step for determining the position and rotation angle at which the digital watermark information is embedded in the image data, based on the confidence coefficient calculated by said calculating step.

Claim 14 (Currently amended) A computer data signal [embodied in a propagating wave] comprising:

Code signals for use in implementing an image processing method of embedding in image data, digital watermark information comprising an irrotationally symmetric pattern arrangement and position and rotation information;

Code signals for use in a rotation information searching step for performing processing for extracting the rotation information from the image data with the digital watermark information embedded therein, for a plurality of rotation angles different from one another;

Code signals for use in a position information searching step for performing processing for extracting the position information from the image data, for a plurality of start-of-extraction positions different from one another;

Code signals for use in a calculating step for calculating confidence coefficients indicating the accuracy with which the position and rotation information is extracted, for each information searched by the rotation information searching step and the position information searching step and extracted as position and rotation information; and

Code signals for use in a determining step for determining the position and rotation angle at which the digital watermark information is embedded in the image data, based on the confidence coefficient calculated by the calculating step.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this section can be found in the prior office action.
3. The prior office actions are incorporated herein by reference. In particular, the observations with respect to claim language, and response to previously presented arguments.
4. Claims 12 and 14 have been amended.
5. Claims 1-15 are pending.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 11/19/2004 have been fully considered and they are persuasive.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-15 are allowed.

Conclusion

8. Any comments considered necessary by the applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled "comments on statement of reasons for allowance."

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kambiz Zand whose telephone number is (571) 272-3811. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (8:00-5:00). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (571) 272-3799. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

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applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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09/06/2005